

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 EPG-02 AID-05
SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02
FEAE-00 OMB-01 IGA-02 OES-07 /118 R

DRAFTED BY EA/EP:AGEBER:SRP
APPROVED BY EA:EHEGINBOTHAM
AID/ASIA:MADLER
EB/ODF:JWINDER
AID/SER/CFS:TMOSE
COMMERCE (INFO)
TREASURY (INFO)
AGRICULTURE (INFO)
STR (INFO)

-----069740 061620Z /45

R 061259Z JUL 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A
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TAGS: ASEAN

SUBJECT: US-ASEAN ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS: DEVELOPMENT
COOPERATION

REFS: A) MANILA 8218; B) STATE 152723; C) MANILA 10197

1. WE APPRECIATE MRS. MANALO'S CLARIFICATION OF ASEAN VIEWS CONCERNING THIS AGENDA ITEM AND RESPOND TO HER REQUEST FOR US SUGGESTIONS IN THE FOLLOWING.

2. THE US HAS SEVERAL AVENUES THROUGH WHICH IT CAN PROMOTE TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF ASEAN. ONE MECHANISM IS THROUGH AID. IN ORDER TO QUALIFY FOR AID ASSISTANCE A KEY REQUIREMENT IS THAT THE PROJECT SHOULD COMPLY WITH "NEW DIRECTIONS" CRITERIA, I.E. THAT IT SHOULD MEET BASIC HUMAN NEEDS. WE WOULD ALSO WISH TO ASSURE THAT THE PROJECTS ARE TRULY REGIONAL I.E. THAT THEY BENEFIT AT LEAST THREE OR FOUR COUNTRIES OF THE REGION, AND THAT THEY CORRESPOND TO REGIONAL PRIORITIES.

ILLUSTRATIVELY WE CAN SUGGEST FOLLOWING:

A. SUCCESSFUL PROJECT MODELS. WE COULD PROVIDE TECHNICAL

ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING TO ENCOURAGE THE USE OF SUCCESSFUL PROJECTS IN ASEAN MEMBER COUNTRIES AS DEMONSTRATION MODELS AND POSSIBLY TRAINING FACILITIES FOR OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES. EXAMPLES ARE: RURAL ELECTRIFICATION IN THE PHILIPPINES, POPULATION IN INDONESIA, AND HEALTH DELIVERY SYSTEMS IN THAILAND. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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B. NON-FORMAL EDUCATION VIA SATELLITE. WE COULD PROVIDE SOFTWARE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT THE USE OF INDONESIA'S SATELLITE FOR NON-FORMAL EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURAL MAPPING FOR ASEAN MEMBER NATIONS.

C. REGIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROJECT. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS FOR SMALL SCALE UTILIZATION AND ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES BENEFITTING SMALL FARMERS COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR ASEAN MEMBERS TO DRAW UPON.

3. IN AREAS WHICH ARE OUTSIDE THE AREAS OF "NEW DIRECTIONS", E.G. TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS NOT DIRECTLY BENEFITTING THE RURAL POOR, AID IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE UNDER THE CONGRESSIONAL MANDATE. BUT THE US POSSESSES A VAST STORE OF TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC EXPERTISE WHICH IT IS PREPARED TO MAKE AVAILABLE ON A REIMBURSABLE BASIS. THE USG CAN FACILITATE THE FLOW OF THIS EXPERTISE UNDER SECTION 607 AND SECTION 661 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT. ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES OF ASEAN ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVISIONS OF FAA (STATE 232106,

SEPT. 30, 1975). WE SEE NO OBSTACLES TO APPLYING THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT TO ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE BENEFICIAL TO ALL OR MOST MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

4. THE GREATEST WEALTH OF TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE WHICH COULD BENEFIT ASEAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EXISTS IN THE US PRIVATE SECTOR AND IS MOST EFFECTIVELY TRANSFERRED THROUGH PRIVATE INVESTMENT. THE FACILITATION OF PRIVATE INVESTMENT WILL BE DISCUSSED UNDER ANOTHER AGENDA ITEM. BUT WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO EXPLORE ASEAN'S INTEREST IN SOME ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH WHICH WE COULD ASSIST ASEAN AND ITS MEMBERS IN THE ACCESS TO US SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL KNOW-HOW.

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5. WE ARE PREPARED TO DEVELOP FURTHER THIS AGENDA ITEM AS FAR AS WE POSSIBLY CAN BETWEEN NOW AND THE US-ASEAN CONSULTATION TALKS. WE WOULD NOT WISH THIS ITEM DOMINATE THE AGENDA AS WE FEEL THAT OUR MUTUAL INTERESTS IN COMMODITY POLICY, INVESTMENT AND TRADE POLICIES AND OTHER NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE. AS STATED IN REF. B., WE INTEND TO SUBMIT TO ASEAN AN

OUTLINE OF OUR THINKING ON NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES AND ON INVESTMENT DISCUSSION ITEMS TO WHICH WE ATTACH CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE. WE HOPE TO BE ABLE TO DO SO BY JULY 13 AT LEAST FOR ONE OF THESE PAPERS. AT ANY RATE, WE DOUBT THAT WE CAN CARRY THE PREPARATIONS ON DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION BY THE TIME OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING MUCH BEYOND SOME GENERAL UNDERSTANDING ON THE POSSIBLE AREAS OF COOPERATION, OF ASEAN PROCEDURES, AND ON THE FOLLOW UP MECHANISM WHICH WOULD ALLOW TO BRING PROJECTS TO FRUITION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE156112
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AGEBER:SRP
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770239-1006
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770787/aaaacxnu.tel
Line Count: 156
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 70723570-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MANILA 8218, 77 STATE 152723, 77 MANILA 10197
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1949819
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-ASEAN ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS: DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION
TAGS: PORG, ASEAN
To: MANILA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/70723570-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009